

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF
COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted on March 13, 1996:

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Gary A. Fenner, of Missouri, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

Joseph A. Greenaway, of New Jersey, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

James P. Jones, of Virginia, to the U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Ann D. Montgomery, of Minnesota, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Minnesota.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND
JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 1613 A bill to amend the National School Lunch Act to provide greater flexibility to schools to meet the dietary guidelines for Americans under the school lunch and school breakfast programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mr. KEMPTHORNE):

S. 1614 A bill to provide for the stabilization, enhancement, restoration, and management of the Coeur d'Alene River Basin watershed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BREAU (for himself and Mr. JOHNSTON):

S. 1615 A bill to modify the project for navigation, Mississippi River Ship Channel, Gulf of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 1616 A bill to establish a visa waiver pilot program for nationals of Korea who are traveling in tour groups to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 1617 A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the use of appropriated funds by Federal agencies for lobbying activities; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. DOLE, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1618 A bill to provide uniform standards for the award of punitive damages for volunteer services; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND
SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself and Mr. BRADLEY):

S. Res. 231. A resolution extending sympathies to the people of Scotland; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 1613. A bill to amend the National School Lunch Act to provide greater flexibility to schools to meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans under the school lunch and school breakfast programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT AMENDMENT
ACT OF 1996

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the bill that I am introducing today will amend the National School Lunch Act to provide greater flexibility to schools to meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans under the School Lunch and Breakfast Programs.

The National School Lunch Program is a program that works.

The National School Lunch Program currently operates in over 92,000 schools and serves approximately 26 million children each day. In my State of Mississippi approximately 7 out of 10 children participate in the School Lunch Program. It is very important to have the flexibility to serve the children healthy meals while reducing time consuming paperwork.

The Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994 contained provisions to improve and simplify the National School Lunch Program. It included a requirement that schools implement the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

We must allow for local and regional food preferences. Further, not every school district has the resources to conduct sophisticated nutrient analysis of each meal or to hire a nutritionist.

The legislation that I am introducing today would not delete or postpone in any way the requirement that the School Lunch Program implement the Dietary Guidelines in a timely manner. Rather, my legislation will allow local schools to implement the Dietary Guidelines with greater program flexibility and less expense.

This legislation has the strong support of the school food service administrators in Mississippi.

I urge Senators to support it. •

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mr. KEMPTHORNE):

S. 1614. A bill to provide for the stabilization, enhancement, restoration, and management of the Coeur d'Alene River Basin watershed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

THE COEUR D'ALENE RIVER BASIN
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION ACT OF 1996

• Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I am today introducing, with the cosponsorship of Senator KEMPTHORNE, the Coeur d'Alene River Basin Environmental Restoration Act of 1996. This legislation would allow for a workable solution to clean up the historic effects of mining on the Coeur d'Alene Basin in north Idaho.

This legislation establishes a process that is centered around an action plan developed between the Governor of the

State of Idaho and a Citizens Advisory Commission comprised of 13 representatives of affected State and Federal Government agencies, private citizens, the Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe, and affected industries. The responsibilities of this commission are very important to the ultimate success of cleaning up the basin.

The Silver Valley of north Idaho has made contributions to the national economy and to all of our country's war efforts for well over a century. The Federal Government has been involved in every phase of mineral production over the history of the valley. It is, therefore, appropriate that Congress specifically legislate a resolution of natural resources damages in the Coeur d'Alene Basin and participate in funding such a plan.

I want to make clear this legislation does not interfere with the ongoing Superfund cleanup within the 21-square mile Bunker Hill site. This legislation sets up a framework for voluntary cleanup of affected areas outside this 21-square mile area. In drafting this legislation, I have worked with the mining industry, the Coeur d'Alene tribe, local governments, the Governor of Idaho and citizens in north Idaho. It is only through the involvement of all these parties that a solution will be reached.

Throughout this effort it has been clear that all parties want the basin cleaned up, and they want the cleanup done with the concerns of local citizens and entities addressed and with controls and cleanup decisions made in Idaho, not in Washington, DC. These are the guiding principles that I have applied in developing this legislation.

Local cleanup has already begun in the headwaters of the basin's drainage. Nine Mile Creek and Canyon Creek have had proven engineering designs implemented within their drainages. The Coeur d'Alene River Basin Environmental Restoration Act of 1996 would assure that this type of meaningful restoration could continue. However, the actions needed in each part of the basin are not clear. That is why my bill calls for the Governor of Idaho and the Citizens Advisory Commission to develop an action plan that can address the varying conditions within the basin. For example, engineering solutions will certainly work in portions of the basin—but not every place. The steeper gradient streams in the upper basin respond well to engineering fixes, but these types of fixes may only exacerbate problems in the lower, flatter portions of the basin. Local input and control through the action plan can address such diversity and the need for varying environmental fixes.

The Department of Justice is currently threatening a lawsuit for alleged natural resources damages in the area addressed by this legislation. For the Federal Government to follow such a course would be folly. When the Federal Government litigates under Superfund, the members of the legal